



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

April 22, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Update on the No Child Left Behind Act Activities and Information on State Board of Education's Responsibilities and Time Line

A brief overview of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) was provided to the State Board of Education at the May, August, September, October, and December 2002, January and February 2003 meetings. January introduced a brief overview of NCLB committees to assist in developing the state's strategic plan to accomplish these performance goals:

By 2013-2014, all students will reach high standards, at a minimum attaining proficiency or better in reading/language arts and mathematics.

2. All limited English proficient students will become proficient in English and reach high academic standards; at a minimum, attaining proficiency or better in reading/language arts and mathematics.
3. By 2005-2006, all students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.
4. All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug free, and conducive to learning.
5. All students will graduate from high school.

A brief listing of the NCLB related activities accomplished by Michigan Department of Education (MDE) staff and their field colleagues from February through early April is attached.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

No Child Left Behind Updates: February – April 2003

Grant applications completed, posted, or awarded:

- The Title II, Part A 3, Improving Teaching Quality Competitive Grant Program, Office of Professional Preparation Services (OPPS), began its second grant competition. Applications were posted March 28th and are due May 28, 2003.
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Office of School Excellence (OSE), began its second grant competition. Grants are due May 13, 2003. Four technical assistance sessions were held.

Grant Applications and Administration in Process:

- Comprehensive School Reform grants have been submitted and reviewed. The award process should be completed before the end of the school year.
- McKinney Vento Homeless Student Assistance grant will be posted on the Michigan Electronic Grants System (MEGS) website by the end of April – the application is being updated.
- Reading First Round 2 dates are as follows: Technical Assistance was held on January 13, 14, 16, and 22, 2003. The Revised Grant Announcement and Application was posted on the web in December. The grant applications were due February 28, 2003. A grant reviewer session was held on March 20, 2003. Funding decisions for Round 2 applicants will be announced in late April so newly funded districts can hire literacy coaches, order comprehensive programs, and schedule professional development beginning in August. Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) Institutes for Round 2 personnel are scheduled for June 23 – June 27 and August 12-15 2003.

Communications to Local Districts:

- Michigan's Reading First website was launched in March at www.mireadingfirst.org. This website is linked to the MDE website and will have many features. In addition, a listserv for the various groups involved in Reading First to facilitate communication will be launched.
- The Office of Budget, Contracts, and Grants (OBCG) requested a letter from all school districts indicating their compliance with the law regarding Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, as required by Section 9524 of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Staff received 798 written certifications, 57 Intermediate School Districts (ISD), 553 local districts, and 188 public school academies. This data was submitted by April 15, 2003, as required, to the United States Department of Education (USDOE) indicating all Michigan public schools are in compliance.
- The Office of Field Services (OFS) staff presented 17 workshops throughout the State in March to prepare school districts and public school academies for the new Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports. A final videoconference was held April 10 at Wayne Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) and videotapes from Wayne RESA are available for schools that could not attend the workshops. Workshop materials, including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), are posted on the OFS website.

- Local school districts and public school academies received 2001-02 AYP reports on March 31.
Presentations on Reading First were given at the March Annual Conference of the Michigan Reading Association in Grand Rapids, as well as on April 3 at the Eaton ISD. Presentations are also scheduled in May during the International Reading Association Conference.
- The NCLB MDE website homepage had 8186 hits in February and 4878 hits in March.
- The NCLB page was redesigned in March and is now posted on the MDE website. It is accessible from the right column and the new Accountability button, located on the left side of the home page. This button was added to help viewers find all of the information about *Education YES!*, AYP, and NCLB in one location. Additional improvements to the website are underway.
OFS staff presented 17 workshops throughout the state in March to prepare school districts and public school academies for the new AYP Reports. A final videoconference was held April 10 at Wayne RESA and videotapes from Wayne RESA are available for schools that could not attend the workshops. Workshop materials, including an FAQ, are posted on the OFS website.
- Local school districts and public school academies received 2001-02 AYP reports on March 31.
- Information for determining what state assessment special education students should take was included in a special issue of The Assist newsletter, distributed to 28,000 educators and is posted to the web.

Other Efforts in Development:

- Work continues on the Accountability Workbook to address issues needing final determination and approval. Final recommendations will be reviewed and approved by the State Board in April.
- Staff received the Consolidated State Application Workbook, due May 1, 2003 to USDOE, in early April. Staff has met and a team will complete the data needed by that date.
- A Title III Ad Hoc Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled in April to discuss English Language Proficiency Standards and the statewide English language proficiency assessment currently under development.
- OFS Regional Consultants have scheduled workshops for schools that have been identified for improvement to assist with the development of the required two-year plan and to help schools implement their plans.
- The three key NCLB committees and 5 cross-cutting theme committees have met several times over the past two months. The co-chairs meet monthly to address issues, share progress, and plan for cross committee connections. The work of these committees will be used to develop a draft strategic plan to address how Michigan will achieve the five performance goals from NCLB. One document in progress from the cross-cutting committee on Parents, Families, and Communities is a document on Promising Practices to support schools in addressing this theme.
- The Michigan Reading First Management Team met March 18 to provide updates and "next steps." The next meeting will be held on May 12, 2003.
- OPPS staff developed the Michigan Model for Highly Qualified Teachers, which will be presented to the State Board in April.
- OPPS staff continues discussion with other MDE staff about the benefits and barriers of a statewide online professional development management system.

- OPPS staff is making statewide presentations on Michigan's Quality Framework for Professional Development (PD), Teacher Induction and Mentoring Standards, Updated PD Vision and Standards, PD Reflection Tool, and Ways to Design Extended PD using the current State Board-Continuing Education Unit (SB-CEU) Program.
- OPPS staff continues work on the framework for professional ethics and development.
- OPPS collaboration with Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) and the Department of Information Technology (DIT) continues to provide an interface of the CEPI Register of Educational Personnel and the MDE certification database to ascertain the number of teachers assigned out-of-field or employed in a teaching position without certification. The data are needed to respond to the federal requirement of having a highly qualified teacher in all classrooms by 2005-2006.
- OPPS and Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) staff continue discussions about appropriate data to be collected relevant to the professional development of individual Michigan educators.
- The OPPS in collaboration with the OFS and education associations continues work on the ACT Work Keys assessment (the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Basic Skills exam being the other assessment), for the purpose of determining qualified paraprofessionals.

The Migrant Needs Assessment Committee is in the data-gathering phase of the project and the project is proceeding according to schedule.

The advisory team working on the definition of Persistently Dangerous Schools completed its work and will present it to the State Board in April for final discussion and approval.

- The required quarterly update on the development of the Unsafe School Choice Policy was submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by March 31, 2003.
- A Title III Ad Hoc Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled in April to discuss English Language Proficiency Standards and the statewide English language proficiency assessment currently under development.
- OFS Regional Consultants have scheduled workshops for schools that have been identified for improvement to assist with the development of the required two-year plan and to help schools implement their plans.
- The Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE/EIS) disseminated the Draft Guidelines for Participation in State Assessment for Students with Disabilities for field review and comment through May 31, 2003. An online survey is being used to collect the feedback.
- The second year of administering MI- ACCESS was completed March 31, 2003. Results will be sent to districts during the week of June 2, 2003.

MI-ACCESS Phase 2.1 development has begun again now that a fund source was located. The MI-ACCESS Phase 2.1 proposed assessment plan will be finalized and disseminated for field review, May 2003. Feedback is being collected with an on-line survey. It is anticipated the Phase 2.1 Assessment Plan will go to the State Board in fall 2003.